

Nursing Practice and Education in Australia : An Overview(The Research Society of School of Health Sciences The 41st Meeting)

著者	吉澤 豊子, Anderson Debra
journal or publication title	Bulletin of School of Health Sciences Tohoku University
volume	15
number	2
page range	143-144
year	2006-07-31
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10097/40461

〔報告〕

第 41 回保健学科学術研究会

平成 17 年 10 月 31 日 (月) 18:00~19:30

医学部保健学科 大講義室

演題: 「Nursing Practice and Education in Australia: An Overview」

講師: Debra Anderson, Senior Lecturer,
School of Nursing, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

座長: 吉澤豊子 (看護学専攻, 臨床看護学講座教授)

The many career opportunities open to registered nurses in Australia. They include Registered Nurse Level, Clinical Nurse Level, Clinical Nurse Consultant Level, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Manager/Nurse Educator, Director of Nursing, Director of Nursing and Chief Executive Officer.

In 1984 nurse education was transferred to education sector (universities) and now all nurse education is conducted through a bachelor's degree at universities. This degree is three years long and when students graduate they usually undertake a Graduate Year with a health agency (hospital or community based) where they are provided a structured clinical program which rotates them around different specialties and provides them with mentorship.

1. Nursing Practice

The practice of nursing is changing with the increasing older population. Now nurses promote, restore and maintain health in many different contexts such as acute care/hospitals, residential care facilities, community, rural and remote areas. Nurses work as members of interdisciplinary teams, individual operators in

public health, community health & rural/remote areas. There are several different categories of nurses in Australia. They include Registered Nurse (RN) (3 year bachelor degree at university and registered in each state to practice as a nurse) and Enrolled Nurse (EN) (1 year vocational college at Certificate/Diploma level and enrolled in each state to provide care under the supervision of RN). Nurse Practitioners have recently been introduced as well. These nurses have a Master degree preparation and can undertake the direct referral of patients to other health care professionals, prescribe medications, order diagnostic investigations and diagnose conditions.

2. Nursing Legislation

Each state has own Nursing Act & Regulatory Authority. These authorities provide, accreditation of courses, registration, guidelines and controls professional conduct and practice standards. They provide Australian nursing competencies that all nurses must meet in order to be and practice as a registered nurse in Australia. The Current ANC competency domains for RNs include, professional and ethical practice, critical thinking and analysis, management of care, and enabling.

Registered nurses are highly regulated in Australia and must meet the following criteria to call themselves and practice as a registered nurse. These include educated in degree level courses in universities, licensed to practice within scope of practice and assume accountability and responsibility for their actions.

3. Nursing Education

Australian nursing education offer a broad range of specialties and areas of study for

nurses. The nursing education programs aim to develop professional attributes essential for excellence in nursing practice. The educational focus is on developing clinical competence, providing core units focusing on leadership and management, and contemporary practice issues, having learning strategies which foster lifelong learning, critical analysis, and information literacy. The area of emphasis is also on evidence based practice, that is ensuring that nursing practice is based on sound research and not done a particular way because that is the way it has always been done.

The postgraduate programs focus on the professional career needs of nurses. These programs aim to provide flexible pathways and recognition of prior learning. Courses are delivered in most universities in both internal and external modes. Many of our postgraduate courses for example are undertaken by registered nurses who live in countries other than Australia. Also Australia has many rural and remote areas where nurses practice so they are more likely to take the courses by external and flexible delivery.

Partnerships between the university and the health sector exist with many joint positions of academic and clinical staff in place. The students' clinical experience is undertaken in the health sector (hospitals etc) in support by the staff from the university sector.

Students can undertake the following education in Australia.

1) Undergraduate Program

Bachelor of Nursing is three year university

degree program minimum entry for registered nurses. 1,200 hours of clinical practice required for degree courses.

2) Postgraduate Programs

(1) Graduate Certificate is designed for nurses wanting to expand their knowledge of a particular specialty in nursing such as intensive care, aged care, etc.

(2) Graduate Diploma in Nursing or Graduate Diploma of Midwifery is designed for nurses wanting to increase their research knowledge, knowledge on contemporary nursing issues and their speciality clinical area.

(3) Master of Nursing is designed to prepare nurse for the role of Advanced Practice Nurse.

(4) Master of Nursing Science is designed to prepare nurses to practice as a Nurse Practitioner.

(5) Doctor of Health Science can be undertaken by course work, designed as a professional doctorate.

(6) Doctor of Health Science (Nursing) is a program designed for the advanced practitioner. Students undertake small units of study and research over three years.

(7) Doctor of Philosophy is largely research based and includes a major thesis, and a large body of research work. Students are assigned supervisors and the thesis is examined both at a national and international level.

We offer all of these courses at the Queensland University of Technology.